

The Steward School
Honors Chemistry
Course Overview: 2008-2009
Mrs. Kovach



Course Objectives:

- To attain an understanding of the fundamentals of chemistry
- To interpret common events in terms of chemical concepts and principles
- To prepare for college work in science and related fields
- To express ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic
- To develop laboratory skills including making observations, recording data, calculating and interpreting results and communicating the results effectively

Text: *Chemistry: Matter and Change*, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill

Course Content:

FIRST SEMESTER		SECOND SEMESTER	
Chapter	Topic(s)	Chapter	Topic(s)
1	Introduction to Chemistry	11	The Mole
2	Data Analysis	12	Stoichiometry
3	Matter--Properties and Changes	13	States of Matter
4	The Structure of the Atom	14	Gases
5	Electrons in Atoms	6	The Periodic Table/Periodic Law
8	Ionic Compounds	15	Solutions
9	Covalent Bonding	16	Energy and Chemical Change
10	Chemical Reactions	19	Acids and Bases
		25	Nuclear Chemistry

Materials:

1. Computers
2. Supplementary handouts
3. CD-ROMs (with projector and screen)
4. Video tapes, DVDs
5. Weekly syllabi (You should download from my webpage.)
6. Laboratory equipment and supplies

Methods of Evaluation:

Tests (or projects). 40%

Tests will be given for each unit studied and will *always* be announced in advance. You will be assigned one project (counted as a test grade) to complete each grading period.

Quizzes 30%

Quizzes will be announced in advance. You must keep up with your work to do well.

Products 30%

Products include laboratory reports and homework assignments. Laboratory reports are due upon the completion of an experiment. They must be original work, not an exact copy of your partner's report. Homework is assigned to give you practice. It is to your advantage to try assignments on your own first. Homework is due at the BEGINNING of the class period, not at the end of the period. Because I go over correct answers to homework during class, homework that you do not complete may not be turned in late (unless you are absent the day we go over the assignment.)**

Additional Notes:

- You *must* maintain an organized notebook for this class. Keep everything from this course. Quizzes and tests will help you to review for tests and exams. Separate your notebook into the following sections: *notes/handouts, homework, quizzes, tests, and labs.*
- Chemistry is a cumulative course. Anything you miss or don't understand will return to cause more trouble later in the course. If you don't understand something, get it straightened out right away! *Please* utilize the tutorial time after school.
- Reading from a science text is not like reading from a novel. You have to put in effort to comprehend the material. Write down questions regarding any points you don't understand and I will discuss or explain them before you have either a quiz or a test. Pay attention to graphs, tables, pictures and captions. Use glossaries and appendices that may be in the back of the book. Be sure to pay attention to any help offered by the authors – if a word is in boldface, it probably deserves special attention. Also note the titles of sections – titles stress the major points.
- Due to the cumulative nature of the course, attendance is a crucial issue. If you miss a class, make certain that you are aware of what was covered and what assignments were made. (Check the syllabus posted on the web). If you will be absent due to a school-related event, please make every effort to let me know and turn in any work assigned.
- It is important to get to class on time. We will not wait for you. If you are tardy, please have the courtesy to enter the classroom quietly without disrupting the learning process.
- There is nothing wrong with doing homework with someone else – as long as you both contribute to the effort and you each write the answers in your own terms. Plagiarism is unacceptable – do not simply copy someone else's work.
- Calculators are allowed on most tests and quizzes; however, they cannot be shared. It is your responsibility to bring a calculator to class and to know how to use it.
- Regarding tests, quizzes or projects, I only have one word on cheating or plagiarism – **DON'T!**